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DATE: March 16, 2005

TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner E. Winakur
Mail Stop Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: David M. Crompton

OUR REF: 1023.1117101
TELEPHONE: 612-677-9050

Total pages, including cover letter: 22

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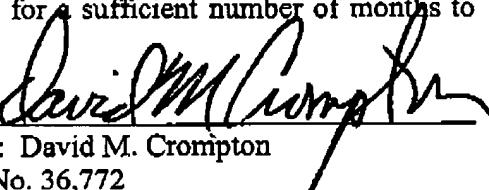
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Title of Document(s) Transmitted: AMENDMENT

Applicant: Craig Gardner et al.
Serial No.: 09/832,608
Filed: April 11, 2001
Group Art Unit: 3736
Our Ref. No.: 1023.1117101
Confirmation No.: 1869
Customer No.: 28075

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P A T E N T

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Craig Gardner et al. Confirmation No.: 1869
Serial No.: 09/832,608 Examiner: E. Winakur
Filing Date: April 11, 2001 Group Art Unit: 3736
Docket No.: 1023.1117101 Customer No.: 28075
For: OPTICALLY SIMILAR REFERENCE SAMPLES AND RELATED METHODS FOR
MULTIVARIATE CALIBRATION MODELS USED IN OPTICAL SPECTROSCOPY

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

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Kathleen L. Boekley
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Signature

March 16, 2005
Date

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed January 3, 2005, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on April 3, 2005. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 16 of this paper.